

## **TRI HITA KARANA (THK) CONCEPT IN RURAL SETTLEMENTS OF BALI**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The research conducted in villages in Badung District due to their existence as safeguarder of adat and culture which indicate the changes in the implementation of THK concept. It aimed at (1) identifying forms of change in the implementation of THK concept in village settlements in Badung, Bali Province, (2) identifying factors causing the change. In order to achieve its objectives, the research utilized a survey. Subject sampling, which consists of the Head of the family determined through stratified sampling technique based on sosial stratification of triwangsa group [Brahmana, Ksatria, and Wesya] and jabawangsa [Sudra]. The analysis was carried out using a qualitative technique supported by quantitative data on change in village settlements which were based upon the THK concept. The research results indicated that (a) forms of change in the implementation of THK concept in the mesoscale village settlements occurred in the element of parhyangan, pawongan, and palemahan in mountainous and plains are relatively the same. The lay out are in the forms of trespassing the circle of holly areas and the placement of temple in vertical orientation. In microscale, the spatial function of biotic component and social culture is transformed into social and economic function for jabawangsa group, whereas triwangsa still maintains the existence of facilities, lay out, and spatial function on abiotic, biotic and social culture component; (b) factors causing the change in the mesoscale village settlement based on THK concept in mountainous and plains were the form of land exploitation, the vegetation availability, income, and the large of land ownership. Meanwhile, in microscale, the limit of land is the only factor; The THK concept as manifestation of local wisdom in village settlements is adaptive to changes and advancement of time as indicated by compromising the kahyangan tiga part as the soul of the settlement while the territory as the physical body of the village as well as the residents. Such a harmony will assure preservation of harmonious environment.

Key words: change, THK implementation, and the environment of rural settlements

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### **Introduction**

This research of settlement environment focuses on micro study for rural settlement. Approach used for rising questions was ecological approach (Yunus, 2004; Dyne, 1972; Odum, 1971; Mabogunje, 1970). The ecological approach to settlement study views the settlement as an ecosystem form of interaction, distribution, and human activity results with environment. Analysis theme used was system analysis. In analysis system, we can understand how abiotic, biotic, and social-culture environment components explain change in concept application of Tri Hita Karana or three happiness causes (THK) in microscale settlement environment.

Settlement ecology arrangement of Bandung Bali District was based on THK concept. *Parhyangan* location would be placed in *utama* (main) area, ecological service location would be placed in *madya* (medium) area, and burial location would be placed in *nista* area. Likewise, temple yard space arrangement and housing considered THK concept (Aryana 1984), THK concept has shown various excellences and universal, relevant to sustainable developments and environments, as Sutawan (2004), Windia (2006), Agung (2007), and Astra Wesnawa (2009) indicated that THK implicitly contains message that natural resources should be managed wisely to keep the preservation, always thank the one God and prioritize harmonic relationship between people, so that resulting conflict could be overcome.

Modernization flow brings effects on traditional society communication systems in implementing the THK concept of settlement environment in rural area in Badung Bali District (Astra Wesnawa, 2009). This research widely emphasized on rural environment, which has not been identified completely.

Population development resulted in a number of problems, one of them is settlement environment problem. Settlement develops along with population growth, so that, it is not astonished if new settlements appear. Badung, having relatively higher population growth of 1.89% and formation of nuclear family, resulted in land need increasing for settlement. Limited land had effect on house building, which tended to not consider THK concept. It is necessary to examine as to determine appropriate way to solve, so that it does not result in new problems, both on relation to use of local material and settlement environment based on THK concept. How has settlements in rural Bandung Bali not been understood certainly.

Symptoms of increased society activities as result of developments in various sectors require fulfillment of land need and mutually relate to activities, it brings implication to environment arrangement. How does process of change in rural settlement environment in application to THK concept need to examine deeply. Badung District experienced changes along with increased society economy, such as, changes in settlement environment based on THK concept. The resulting changes must be colored by various impacts.

Based on the description above, research questions are organized as follows: in fact, Badung District has symptoms that there is change in application of THK concept to rural settlement. On the other hand, it could be indicated that rural settlement environment arrangement, in fact, there is now symptom of existing normative concept transformation modification, so that we need to understand forms of changes, causes, settlement environment change occurrence. The research objectives were to: (1) identifying forms of change in the implementation of THK concept in village settlements in Badung, Bali Province, and (2) identifying factors causing the change.

## Review of Literature

### 1. Traditional Settlement Concept of Bali

According to Yunus in Astra Wesnawa (2015), settlement can be meant as formation, made by both human and nature with all complement used by human as individual and group to reside temporarily and permanently in order to enforce life. Furthermore, Barlow and Newton (1971) in Yunus (1996) stated that meaning of term *settlement* is all types of human habitation from a single tract, hut or form house to a huge city with many thousand of building or dwelling. Zee (1979) gave meaning of settlement narrowly as housing, consisting of habitation buildings and *house building group*.

Settlement may be reviewed from macro-, meso-, and micro-scales. Yunus (1996) explained that scale of macro settlement study scope consisting of city systems of systems of cities in relatively wider area. Discussion can be done from wide theory to individual cities. Meso-scale, as space used by human for habitation, is formed from elements supporting creation of a situation enabling human to enforce life.

In micro-scale, this habitation has five elements whose each element mutually affects each other in a system. The five elements are house building used for protection from environmental threat, facility needed by presence if houses to be used by dwellers in enforcing life, instruments leading to achievement if environmental success, environmental condition, especially social-cultural environment, also natural physical environment needs consideration, and aspect of architectural beauty of existing building in individual and group.

In Bali, generally, settlement has *perempatan agung* pattern with two main ways crossing villages, East and West and North and South, forming cross street as central village (Atmaja, 2003; Sukawati, 2004). Villages in mountains tend to orient to mount top direction, cross street forming environmental pattern is accorded to slope location. Villages in mountains usually have divergent pattern, tending to approach workplace in farming field and yard. Settlement pattern diverges to form far sub-ecologies and is related to footpath to main village. Villages in slopes were built in farming workplace environment of wet field. Settlement pattern is *perempatan agung* center. Villages in beaches with fishers have location form tending to elongate parallel to beach. Settlement pattern is linear to orientation to beach direction (Atmaja, 2003).

Settlement pattern of *perempatan agung* which is divergent or linear existing in Bali area always orients to THK concept, so that building placement with different functions follows relied guidance. As praying building, this building is placed in part of upstream considered as holy place, a part for settlement is located in the middle and release place in *teben* direction.

Based on the description, it can be stated that traditional settlement of Bali has *perempatan agung* pattern from micro-, meso-, and macro-levels. And micro-scale settlement, *perempatan agung* pattern seems like presence of building age, such asm beds, ceremony place, kitchen, and farming product storage. Middle part of house yard is for orientation center of all buildings, being empty land called *natah*. *Natah* is existence of micro-scale *perempatan agung* (Astra Wesnawa, 2009).

### 2. Change in Application of THK concept to Settlement Environment

Realization of change illustrates what are parts to change, series of change stages, and changing parts can certainly illustrate on how the parts change. Levels of change stages illustrate tendency of change direction. From the phenomenon, existing important factors in changes and origin can be illustrated. Sequences of changing parts can show starting point of the change. Time dimension in change stages can illustrate acceleration of change. Change in application of THK concept is based on the current situation, so that occurrence showing presence of difference is a change (Strauss, 2003).

To examine settlement environment, we need to know causes of change. The change causes occur because there is dissatisfactory things or new factors which are more satisfactory as replacement for old factors. Soemardjan and Soelaeman (1990) stated that, in general, change cause sources are located in the society or derived outside themselves. In relation to the opinion, causal factors of changes of internal sources are desire to be better than before. Whereas external sources are foreign cultural effects, such as, tourism cultures.

Furthermore, changes in settlement environment result in impacts. Concepts of impacts used in this research refer to resulting symptoms, both directly and indirectly, after settlement environment events occurred and things following changes in settlement environment. Significance of impact, according to Soemarwoto (1988), is a resulting change as result of an activity.

From the proposed view, I could estimate various complex impacts. In this research, the impacts are intended to be a change occurring in rural settlement environment as result of human activity. In relation to the impact concept, then impacts of rural settlement environment changes are based on THK concept, including impacts of settlement environment changes on normative certainty of THK concept in *utama*, *madya*, and *nista* spaces (Astra Wesnawa, 2009).

## Research design

Design used in this research was Survey (Effendi and Singarimbun, 1989). Survey was to collect information from respondents using structured questionnaires, this procedure could cover rural society demography with owned special characteristic relation. Limited survey method in investigating qualitative-analytical information, this research was supported by field observation and in-depth interview with key information. Samples were determined by *areal sampling* and *subject sampling* with *stratified sampling* technique. Analysis was done by qualitative-analytical technique supported by quantitative data for changes in rural settlement environment based on THK concept.

This research was conducted in rural area of Badung District by taking two location of mountain and slope villages. From each population group, samples were selected proportionally by considering the area population variety. The taken samples were relatively comparable to quantity, but the distribution was even to each landscape (Kartono, 1996). In this procedure, samples of 5 villages were taken, 2 villages for mountain *landscape*, Petang and Kutuh, were selected; and three villages for slope landscape, villages of Baha, Buduk and Ayunan, were selected.

Respondents were taken by *stratified proportional random sampling* in research location of slope and mountain villages. Research respondents were heads of households. Quantitative data were analyzed by descriptive-qualitative approach with steps as suggested by Miles and Huberman (1987).

## Results and Discussion

### 1. Identification of THK concept Application Change Forms in Rural Settlement Environment

Changes in THK concept application to rural settlement environment in *parahyangan* zone were seen from presence of space facility, site arrangement and space function without changes., except holly *pura* (temple) radius area, responding to rural society compromising form. The compromising form as negotiation existence was performed because society is fear of tradition, religion, and village government (*guru wisesa*).

*Pawongan* zone was responded to adaptation form by taking small measure of layout aspect. Meanwhile, micro-scale experienced changes from space function aspect into economic function, resulting in rural settlement environment changes. Cultural-social aspect time was set-up in cultural-social activities, so that civil servants could participate in. function change into modern direction of social organizations, such as, *sekehe numbeg*, *nandur* (in agricultural sector) were lost because lack of total *krama subak* and weak *subak* function in considering *palemahan*, especially in change process from wet field function into non wet field.

In *palemahan* zone, open space for wet field/dry field is used for economic attribute, rice plant is replaced by flower plants. Wet field change into non wet fields, such as, settlement along with other infrastructures, add component of *palemahan* space structure formation, this change is implicated in decreased rural area beauty.

Based on theory suggested before, THK as local beauty existence has harmonic meaning with environment, so that component of environment can adapt to function in responding to changes and progress of time. Adaptif THK to resulting changes did not experience conflict derived from changes in THK application. It means that THK can work contextually and universally in rural settlement environment (Astra Wesnawa, 2009).

### 2. Causes of Rural Settlement Environment Changes based on THK concept

Causal factors of rural settlement environment changes based on THK concept in meso-scale include: abiotic concepts, namely, uses of land, landscape, field, water layout, and climate. Biotic concepts include: components of growth, animals and human. Social-cultural components include: technological information, farming commercialization and economic diversification, *desa adat* (traditional village) institution systems and local wisdom.

THK concept as normative concept remains adaptive in accommodating changes. Strong effect of modernization only changes economic-social function, while religion life and spatial structure remain relatively stable. It is reflected in religion ceremony using water from spring. Sacral praying eternalizes plants and animals, if followed-up by action program, the plants and animals can be maintained continuously.

Causal factors of micro-scale changes include: presence of vegetation, family income, and lad area. THK in settlement environment seems that land limitation and economic ability will affect layout of *parahayangan*, *pawongan*, and *palemahan*. In social-cultural aspect, living of household heads indicates that economic structure is experiencing transformation from primary structure to secondary and tertiary structures. In context of local wisdom, these changes have social meaning realized in economic activity forms, intending to assure harmony and development of human resources in order to conserve and preserve natural resources.

## Closing

Forms of THK concept application to rural settlement environment in meso-scale include elements of *parhyangan*, *pawongan*, and *palemahan* of villages. Rural layout does not seem to be clear for *parahyangan*, *pawongan* and *palemahan* spaces, spaces for *parhyangan* are used for building space, *pawongan* also has *parhyangan*, also *palemahan* space is used for building or other infrastructures, it brings implication to performance of traditional, religious and social ceremony activities. Micro-scale, *sanggah* layout, is located on upper floor, house building experiences changes, *tebe* begins to lack of existence. Findings are presences of

orientation of shrine building layout leading to vertical orientation, it is supported by presence of *menektuwun* conception, economic ability, and dweller prestige.

Causes of changes, landscape elements, being place height, can be stated that higher place affects variation of use of land for *parahyangan*, *pawongan*, and *palemahan* buildings. Different Landscape affects population activities. Land limitation causes presence of plants to begin decrease, to meet needs of flowers, *yad* need of household is obtained by buying it. Factors affecting changes in rural settlement environment application are land area, plants, and income. In social-cultural aspect, living of household heads shows changes from household head work into non farming. Findings are that economic structure is experiencing transformation from primary structure to secondary and tertiary structures.

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